

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

CLAIMS

1. **(currently amended)** A pipe plug having a mold-formed plug body comprising:
a cylindrical radially expandable plug body having end portions and a central portion with an outer surface having a series of alternating circumferential raised ribs and circumferential textured bands;
first and second rigid end caps wherein the end caps have a portion inserted into the end portions of the plug body; and,
first and second swaging rings installed over the end portions of the plug body and the portions of the end caps inserted into the end portions of the plug body, the swaging rings being swaged into the end portions to compress the end portions of the plug body onto the end caps, wherein at least one end cap has an air fitting for inflating the pipe plug and expanding the plug body and wherein the series of alternating circumferential raised ribs and textured bands form a gripping surface that improves the resistance to slippage when the pipe plug is installed in a pipe and inflated wherein the textured bands are formed with diagonal cross grooves to produce a knurled gripping surface.
2. **(canceled)**
3. **(previously presented)** The pipe plug of claim 1 wherein the raised ribs have a width and a height with the width substantially equal to the height.
4. **(previously presented)** The pipe plug of claim 1 wherein the end portions each have an outer surface circumferential groove for seating the swaging ring.
5. **(canceled)**

6. (canceled)
7. (currently amended) A pipe plug having a mold-formed plug body comprising:
a cylindrical radially expandable plug body having end portions and a central portion with an outer surface having a series of alternating circumferential raised ribs and circumferential textured bands wherein the textured bands are formed with a knurled surface;
first and second rigid end caps coupled to respective first and second end portions of the plug body, wherein at least one end cap has an air fitting for inflating the pipe plug and expanding the plug body and wherein the series of alternating circumferential raised ribs and textured bands form a gripping surface that improves the resistance to slippage when the pipe plug is installed in a pipe and expanded.
8. (canceled)
9. (previously presented) The pipe plug of claim 7, wherein the raised ribs have a width and a height with the width substantially equal to the height.
10. (previously presented) The pipe plug of claim 7 further comprising a coupling ring, wherein the end portions of the plug body each have an outer circumferential groove and the coupling ring at least in part engages the groove when the end caps are inserted into the end portions of the plug body and the coupling rings are installed onto the end portions over the end caps in engagement with the outer grooves.